

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 22 (Canceled)

Claim 23. (Currently amended) A method for separating nucleic acids from a fluid containing the nucleic acids comprising:

- a) bringing a sample that contains nucleic acids in a fluid in contact with a magnetic particle comprising a magnetic core and an outer glass layer, wherein said outer glass layer comprises boron oxide, said outer glass layer completely covers the magnetic core and has an outer glass surface, wherein the outer glass surface is substantially pore-free or has pores with a diameter of less than 10 nm under conditions such that the nucleic acids can bind to the glass surface; and thereafter
- b) separating the bound nucleic acids from the fluid.

Claim 24. (Previously added) The method of claim 23 wherein said nucleic acids in the fluid are nucleic acids in native form.

Claim 25. (Previously amended) The method of claim 23 wherein the bound nucleic acids are separated from the fluid with a magnetic field.

Claim 26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23 wherein the magnetic particle is not subjected to the influence of a magnetic field before being brought in contact with the sample and is thus able to sediment when being brought in contact with the sample.

Claim 27. (Previously added) The method of claim 23 wherein any pores in the glass surface of said magnetic particle have a diameter of less than 1 nm.

Claim 28. (Previously added) The method of claim 23, further comprising eluting said bound nucleic acids from said magnetic particle.